Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LONDON 13138 091104Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----048143 091328Z /47

R 091045Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6998

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

CONFIDENTIAL LONDON 13138

EXDIS

DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO DEFENSE FOR ASD/ISA AND DASD/NEASA

E.O 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: MASS' ET, UK, US, YO

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV TRANSFER OF M-47 TANKS TO ETHIOPIA

REFERENCE: STATE 185683

1. WILBERFORCE, HEAD, DEFENSE DEPARTMENT, FCO AND QUINLAN, DUS/P, MOD, WHEN INFORMED ON AUGUST 8 OF CONTENTS REFTEL, TOLD POLITICAL-MILITARY ATTACHE THAT MATTER COMES AS COMPLETE SURPRISE TO THEM. THEY THANKED US FOR INFORMATION AND PROMISE TO LET US HAVE CONFIDENTIAL

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REACTION, IF ANY. TOUCHING ON THE ETHIOPIAN-SOMALI DISPUTE, WILBERFORCE NOTED IMPORTANCE SOMALIS ATTACH TO ACQUIRING ARMS QUICKLY. ALTHOUGH THE SITUATION IN THE OGADEN CLEARLY INVOLVED SOMALI REGULARS, IT WOULD BE UNFORTUNATE IF SIAD'S TURNING AWAY FROM DEPENDENCE ON THE SOVIET UNION COLLAPSED BEFORE SIAD HAD TIME TO DEVELOP AND IMPROVE RELATIONS WITH THE WEST. HE AGREED WITH

SOMALI LINE THAT SOVIETS ARE PUTTING GREAT PRESSURE ON SOMALIA VIS-A-VIS SOMALI-ETHIOPIAN DISPUTE OVER OGADEN.

2. WILBERFORCE SAID SOMALI ARMS PURCHASE DELEGATION-WHICH JUST RETURNED HERE FOR SECOND VISIT--IS CONTINUING TO PRESS HARD FOR WHATEVER IT CAN GET BEFORE THE END OF AUGUST, BUT HE SAID BRITISH ARE IN STALLING POSTURE AT PRESENT. HOWEVER, SOMALIS NOW WILL GET MORE DEFINITIVE INFORMATION ON PRICE, AVAILABILITY AND DELIVERY TIME-SCALE. WE ARE PROMISED FURTHER INFORMATION SOON AND BELIEVE FCO WILL MOST LIKELY HANDLE MATTER THROUGH UK EMBASSY WASHINGTON.

BREWSTER

NOTE: NOT PASSED DEFENSE.

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am

Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: MILITARY EQUIPMENT, TANKS (COMBAT VEHICLES)

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 09-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED

Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LONDON13138
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Document Unique ID: 00

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Drafter: n/a Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: X1

Errors: N/A **Expiration:**

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Retention: 0

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Status: NATIVE Subject: YUGOSLAV TRANSFER OF M-47 TANKS TO ETHIOPIA

TAGS: MASS, ET, UK, US, YO, FR

To: STATE Type: TE

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Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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